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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of	:	Customer Number: 20277
Toshimichi KISHIMOTO, et al.	:	Confirmation Number: 9299
Application No.: 10/021,550	:	Group Art Unit: 2134
Filed: December 18, 2001	:	Allowed: August 16, 2006
	:	Examiner: P. Poltorak
For: DISK MANAGEMENT INTERFACE	:	

**COMMENTS ON STATEMENT OF
REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE
UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 104(e)**

Mail Stop Issue Fee
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

A Statement of Reasons for Allowance accompanied the August 16, 2006 Notice of Allowability regarding the above-identified application. Although Applicants agree that the claims are patentable over the art, entry of the Statement into the record should not necessarily be construed as any agreement with or acquiescence by Applicants in the particular reasoning set forth in the Statement.

The Statement first addresses Huang and asserts that a passage quoted from claim 1 is not disclosed by Huang. The statement then addresses Osman et al. and asserts that another passage quoted from claim 1 is not disclosed by Osman et al. The two independent claims, however, are worded somewhat differently; and the Statement overlooks differences in scope of the patentable independent claims. Also, the language of the claims is already of record and is clear and concise. Repetition of claim language in the Statement adds nothing substantive to the record


and should not create any narrowing interpretation or estoppel with regard to any of the allowed claims or any of the recitations contained in the allowed claims.

It is respectfully submitted that the allowed claims should be entitled to the broadest reasonable interpretation and to the broadest range of equivalents that are appropriate in light of the record, without reference to the Statement of Reasons for Allowance.

To the extent necessary, if any, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 500417 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

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